



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
GARY HEBL
46TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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Celebrating A Little More Freedom This Year

By Rep. Gary Hebl

Independence Day is one of my favorite holidays. July 4 is the iconic day of summer. It's a day to spend time with family and friends, perhaps enjoy a local parade, the shining sun and a charred brat hot off the grill. It always instills in me a sense of pride to see the stars and stripes popping up all over Sun Prairie.

Sun Prairie's Flags of Freedom Parade, this year held the week before July 4, was a terrific opportunity to see community members gather to honor our country and share our pride in the symbol of liberty and opportunity.

Of course, the 4th of July is a celebration of our freedom. On July 4, 1776, the United States adopted the Declaration of Independence. 56 of our forefathers signed their names to a document denouncing the tyranny of King George, declaring the United States as a free and sovereign nation. This year marks the 239th anniversary of that momentous day in American history.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal..."

These words ring a little louder this Independence Day. Last week, the United States Supreme Court held that all Americans – regardless of their sexual orientation – have the right to marry the person they love. Marriage equality across our great nation provides an additional freedom to many of our friends, family, and neighbors who were previously denied equality in the eyes of the government.

The Supreme Court also validated subsidies through the Affordable Care Act, protecting millions of Americans from losing health care coverage. It's estimated that the ruling saved 166,000 Wisconsinites from losing their health insurance. I can think of few more important foundations in protecting every American's right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness than greater security in health and wellbeing.

Last week was a transformative time in American history. This Independence Day, as we celebrate our freedom, may we all welcome greater liberties and increased opportunities for all Americans. I wish you a happy Independence Day.

Rep. Gary Hebl represents the 46th Assembly District, which includes the cities of Sun Prairie and Stoughton, the village of Cottage Grove, and the townships of Cottage Grove, Dunkirk, Pleasant Springs, and Sun Prairie.

Contact Rep. Hebl with any questions or concerns you may have at (608) 266-7678 or via email at Rep.Hebl@legis.wi.gov.

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